

Honorable Judge Robert S. Lasnik

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENSE CENTER

Plaintiff,

v.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
JUSTICE, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:20-cv-00674-RSL

Stipulated Motion and Order for
Relief from Rule 26(a)(1) and (f)
Requirements

Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 10(g), Plaintiff Human Rights Defense Center (HRDC) and Defendants United States Department of Justice (DOJ) and its agency, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) (together, the United States), stipulate and jointly move for relief from the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1) and (f), including the exchange of initial disclosures and filing of a joint status report and discovery plan. HRDC filed this action under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), seeking disclosure of certain DEA documents

1 that it sought unsuccessfully via an administrative FOIA request and appeal.
2 Complaint [dkt. no. 1] ¶¶ 12-19.

3 On June 10, 2020, the Court issued an order setting deadlines for the
4 parties to hold a Rule 26(f) conference by June 24, 2020, exchange initial
5 disclosures by July 1, 2020, and file a joint status report and discovery plan by
6 July 8, 2020. Dkt. no. 9. The parties held a telephonic Rule 26(f) conference on
7 June 24, 2020, during which they discussed ways to resolve HRDC's claim most
8 efficiently, either through litigation or a negotiated resolution.

9 Upon further consideration, HRDC and the United States STIPULATE that
10 this case constitutes "an action for review on an administrative record" under
11 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1)(B)(i), and is thus exempt from the initial
12 disclosure requirements of Rule 26(a)(1), and from the requirements of Rule 26(f),
13 which include preparation of a discovery plan. The parties intend to work
14 cooperatively to attempt to resolve this litigation without motion practice. They
15 therefore FURTHER STIPULATE to file a joint status report by August 24, 2020,
16 advising the Court of steps they have taken towards resolution. If it becomes

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1 | apparent before August 24, 2020, that resolution between the parties is not
2 | feasible, the parties will submit a proposed schedule to the Court.

3 | DATED this 8th day of July 2020.

4 | s/ Caesar Kalinowski

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Respectfully submitted,

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IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 13th day of July, 2020.



Hon. Robert S. Lasnik
United States District Court